

# ***Iowa Council for Early ACCESS***

## ***Meeting Minutes September 19, 2014***

### **I. Call to order**

**Heather Moorman** called the **Iowa Council for Early ACCESS** to order at **10:08 AM** on **September 19, 2014** at the Grimes State Building, Des Moines, IA.

### **II. Attendance**

**Council Members Present:** Heather Moorman, Paula Connolly, Barbara Khal, Marti Andera, Jeffrey Anderson, Gary Guetzko, Laurie Jeans, Stacy Kramer, Aryn Kruse, Janet Stauss, Laura Belle Sherman-Proehl, Joshua Tessier, Shari Huecksteadt, Heather Moorman, Debra Matzat (cc), Kasey Vermillion, Mary Butler, Chad Dahm, Kevin Koester (cc).

**Staff Present:** Meghan Wolfe, Kate Small, Cindy Weigel, Andrea Dencklau

**Absent:** Julie Hahn, (excused), Maria Cashman, Angela Hance, Gladys Alvarez, Kim Thomas

### **III. Parent Presentation**

Cindy Pommrehn presented on her son Aedyn who was part of the Early ACCESS system. Cindy provided great examples of the different services, especially assistive technology devices that helped with her son's development.

### **IV. Approval of Minutes from last Meeting**

Paula Connolly made a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Marti Andera seconded. Approved unanimously.

### **V. Agency Updates**

Cindy Weigel provided Department of Education Updates. Agency updates were handed out and will be emailed with meeting highlights. Of note, the first full year of Distance Mentoring Model coaches was just celebrated this past week.

Public Health updates provided by Meghan Wolfe:

Meghan Wolfe and Dee Gethmann presented on the IFSP data system at a national conference in New Orleans two weeks prior. Meghan reflected that the presentation went well and as many times as our web IFSP system can be frustrating, she felt very appreciate for the system we do have compared to other states in the Nation. We will have a magnet for the new family support network system. All materials have a QR code that can be scanned.

Department of Human Services (DHS): Andrea Dencklau provided handouts from Department of Human Services on Community Partnerships, “Protecting Children is Everyone’s Business”

Barbara Khal updated that Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC) is coordinating a new grant for Iowa’s young children with Autism Spectrum disorder. If you think you know of any families who might benefit from these funds, feel free to contact any of the individuals listed in the agency update for CHSC.

Shari Huecksteadt updated that the EAGL (Early ACCESS Leadership Group) met a few weeks ago and talked about what was on the “top of the list” for the state this year. Routines Based Interviews (RBI) is something that the state wants to continue focusing on. Every region is in a different place; many have gone through coaching training through Rush and Sheldon. The liaisons are taking time during their professional development to talk about coaching and RBI.

## **VI. Committee Updates**

Public policy: Marcus Miller-Johnson reported that policy-wise things are on hold until after the election. Budget at the federal level continuing resolution until December, probably flat-funded until the session resumes.

Governor’s Report: Jeff Anderson reported that they have a good discussion with the parent group regarding how to present “our case”. We may be looking at a one or two-pager for the front piece for the legislators, it will be nice and short.

Another thing we considered doing is to embed hyperlinks to you tubes with testimonials that are no longer than 2-3 minutes within a section. What our presenter said is what we are really trying to do, is increasing children’s skills and knowledge. The committee may meet again before the next meeting.

Nominations Committee: Meghan Wolfe reported that we have 9 members whose terms end after this year. Six of those members are eligible for new terms. We will have to recruit more parents to be on the council next year..

Parent Committee: Is going to start meeting at 9:00. This used to be done in previous years and we are trying to do this again. Are going to network and try to think about other topics. The next meeting we will think about Day on the Hill and will contact our legislative liaisons what are things that we can do to prepare. Ex: How do you request a meeting with a legislator? Collaborating with the Governor’s Report Committee. We have some good ideas. We will do an informal survey and figure out if there are any additional topics that we need to know about.

## **VII. SSIP presentation (State Systemic Improvement Plan).**

Cindy Weigel has provided a presentation on setting new targets for our Annual Process Report (APR) indicators. These targets are proposed for the future six reporting years: 2013-2014 through 2018-2019.

C5: Chile Find, B-1.

LauraBelle: previous numbers were lower because we had low referral rates from hospitals. The state talked up the AEAs about how they were trying to increase referrals and setting a target. Tried to go similarly with the national average. Thinking about other resources within the state- we aren't the only program that provides help with families.

Through our DMM project and other projects that are happening, hearing across the state where we have a standards of practice that we see children once a month. We could meet the law of no waiting lists, but through this project we may see that we aren't providing the best LEVEL of service and frequency because we have  
We also don't want to see families leaving other community services. Districts may want the money. Would hate to see a dip after changing eligibility.

Even though as a state we are above the average, however some regions are below the target.

Noted that region 10 is somewhat lower than the other numbers. University of Iowa hospitals and clinics has a very strong infant follow-up program so that is a strong program besides Early ACCESS that serves these children so that could account for the difference. They have been working hard in that region to make connections and speak for Early ACCESS.

### Recommendations for C5

1.4

1.5

1.45

1.3

1.5- we are going with the trend on a national average in the fact that there are more

5

Questions: Why were the previous targets not incremental? This could have been due to working with the foster care system.

What do our services look like for more diverse populations?

Might not know what the total population is and maybe the kids are being services elsewhere. How many kids can potentially be served? Eligibility criteria is all over the place.

| 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1.30    | 1.35    | 1.35    | 1.40    | 1.40    | 1.45    |

### Recommendations for C6

2.5

2.6

3.0

2.6

Right now we are flat-funded. We shouldn't raise too much if we want to increase frequency of services for each child in Early ACCESS.

### Council Decisions:

| 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2.5     | 2.5     | 2.6     | 2.6     | 2.7     | 2.7     |

### **C2: Natural Environments**

Suggested that we leave the target at 96.60 because sometimes not appropriate to serve children in home environments if they are medically fragile.

It was agreed that this was appropriate for a target.

### **C4: Family Outcomes**

#### Help family know their rights.

We could have a time for families to come in and have an opportunity to present on some challenges they had working with the Early ACCESS system.

| 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.00   |

#### Effectively communicate their child's needs

| 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.30   | 93.00   | 93.00   |

#### Help their child develop and learn

| 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.00   | 93.30   | 93.00   | 93.00   |

### **C3: Early Childhood Outcomes**

#### Summary Statement 1: Substantially Increased Rate of Growth

Early ACCESS Leadership Group (Early ACCESS liaisons) have suggested that the targets not get set very high for two reasons: (1) full implementation of the new practices will not happen for 4 more years with the staggered DMM PD; and (2) on average, children are only in EA for a little more than a year. In that short timeframe, development is not going to change drastically. The EA group says the trend line will increase some but not at the level that OSEP might expect to see. The group proposed

that we keep the baseline the same for two years and then increase .5 percent each successive year.

|   | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| A | 44.63   | 44.63   | 44.83   | 44.83   | 45.03   | 45.03   |
| B | 50.33   | 50.33   | 50.53   | 50.53   | 50.73   | 50.73   |
| C | 56.08   | 56.08   | 56.28   | 56.28   | 56.48   | 56.48   |

**Summary Statement 2:**

|   | 2013-14 | 2014-15 | 2015-16 | 2016-17 | 2017-18 | 2018-19 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| A | 69.90   | 69.90   | 70.10   | 70.10   | 70.30   | 70.30   |
| B | 50.09   | 50.09   | 50.29   | 50.29   | 50.49   | 50.49   |
| C | 71.24   | 71.24   | 71.44   | 71.44   | 71.64   | 71.64   |

**Heather Moorman** adjourned the meeting at **3:14pm**

A motion was made by Marcus Johnson-Miller and seconded by Paula Connolly. It was approved unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Kate Small